CLAIMS

1) Use of a lactic acid bacteria strain capable of decreasing the production of NO by cultures of enterocytes preactivated with pro-inflammatory cytokines and bacterial LPS, for producing a composition which regulates the inflammatory response of enterocytes.

2) Use according to Claim 1, characterized in that said strain is also capable of increasing the production of NO by cultures of enterocytes preactivated with pro-inflammatory cytokines.

3) Use according to either of Claims 1 or 2, characterized in that said bacterial strain is an *L. casei* strain.

4) Use according to any one of Claims 1 to 3, characterized in that said bacterial strain is the *L. casei* strain CNCM I-1518.

5) Use according to any one of Claims 1 to 4, characterized in that said composition is in the form of a food supplement.

6) Use according to any one of Claims 1 to 5, characterized in that said composition is in the form of a fermented dairy product.

7) Process for screening novel lactic acid bacterial strains which have properties which modulate non-specific immunity, characterized in that it comprises the selection of lactic acid bacteria strains capable of inhibiting the production of NO by cultures of enterocytes preactivated with pro-inflammatory cytokines and bacterial LPS.

8) Process according to Claim 7, characterized in that it also comprises a step for selecting strains capable of increasing the production of NO by cultures of enterocytes preactivated with pro-inflammatory cytokines and, optionally, a step for selecting strains which exert no effect on the production of NO by non-activated enterocytes.

9) Process according to either of Claims 7 or 8, characterized in that said strains are screened using cultures of lactic acid bacteria chosen from the group consisting of lactobacilli, lactococci, streptococci and bifidobacteria.